In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A coupling assembly, comprising:

a first fluid conveying member having an exterior surface, the exterior surface including at least one engagement feature; and

a second fluid conveying member having a portion for receiving a portion of the first member, the receiving portion having at least one interior surface that includes at least one locking feature configured to mate with the engagement feature of the first member to substantially prevent rotation of the first member relative to the second member during connection thereto.

2. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the engagement feature is defined by at least one protrusion in the exterior surface of the first member, the protrusion extending outward from a base reference point.

3. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 2, wherein the locking feature is defined by at least one interruption in the interior surface of the receiving portion, said interruption extending outward with respect to the base point.

4. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 3, wherein the engagement and locking features are received in the corresponding protrusion and interruption of the opposing member to create a radial interference.

5. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 4, wherein there are a plurality of protrusions and interruptions, the protrusions and the interruptions located on the respective members such that there is at least one orientation, wherein the members may fully engage by way of a mating of the protrusions and the interruptions.

6. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the engagement feature comprises a plurality of teeth.

7. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 6, wherein the locking feature comprises a plurality of grooves, the teeth of the first member configured to intermesh with the grooves of the second member.

8. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the engagement feature comprises a plurality of tabs.

9. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 8, wherein the locking feature comprises a plurality of slots that are configured to receive the tabs of the first member.

10. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein several engagement features are substantially equidistantly spaced around the exterior surface of the first member.

11. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein several engagement features are non-equidistantly spaced around the exterior surface of the first member.

12. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the engagement feature includes a tapered ramp and a shoulder.

13. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 12, wherein an apex is disposed between the tapered ramp and the shoulder.

14. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein the apex is a substantially flat surface.

15. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein a locking member is disposed between the first and second members for substantially locking movement of the first member relative to the second member in an axial direction.

16. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 15, wherein when the first member is sufficiently inserted into the second member, the exterior surface passes through the locking member where, upon further insertion, the locking member is expanded over the apex

until it clears the apex whereby, the locking member contracts to a position between the first member and the second member to interconnect the members.

17. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 15, wherein the receiving portion of the second member includes an inwardly facing groove for receiving therein the locking member.

18. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 1 further including a release member moveably mounted on the first member for releasing the first member from the second member.

19. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A coupling assembly, comprising:

a first fluid conveying member having an exterior surface and a retaining formation, the retaining formation including at least one engagement feature;

a second fluid conveying member having a portion for receiving a portion of the first member, the second member including at least one locking feature configured to mate with the engagement feature of the first member to substantially prevent rotation of the first member relative to the second member during connection thereto, the receiving portion including an inwardly facing groove configured to receive a locking member; and whereby, when the first member is sufficiently inserted into the second member, the exterior surface passes through the locking member where, upon further insertion, the locking member is expanded over the retaining formation until it clears the retaining formation whereby, the locking member contracts to a position between the first member and the second member to interconnect the members.

22. (Original) A coupling assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein the retaining formation is a portion of the engagement features.

29. (New) A coupling assembly, comprising:

a first member having an exterior surface, the exterior surface including at least one engagement feature;

a second member having a portion for receiving a portion of the first member, the receiving portion having at least one interior surface that includes at least one locking feature configured to mate with the engagement feature of the first member to substantially prevent rotation of the first member relative to the second member during connection thereto; and

a release member moveably mounted on the first member for releasing the first member from the second member, the release member including a flexible sealing portion configured to sealingly engage the second member upon connection of the first and second members.

30. (New) A coupling assembly comprising:

a first member including a retaining formation having at least one engagement feature;

a second member having a portion for receiving a portion of the first member, the receiving portion having at least one interior surface that includes at least one locking feature configured to mate with the engagement feature of the first member to inhibit rotation of the first member relative to the second member during connection thereto; and

a locking member received in the second member, the locking member being positioned between the retaining formation and the second member when the first and second members are connected.

31. (New) A coupling assembly comprising:

a first member having an exterior surface, the exterior surface including at least one engagement feature; and

a second member having a portion for receiving a portion of the first member, the receiving portion having at least one interior surface that includes at least one locking feature configured to mate with the engagement feature of the first member to inhibit rotation of the first member relative to the second member during connection thereto; and

a split locking ring having a first end and a second end aligned in abutting relationship and having a gap therebetween, the split locking ring being selectively trapped between the first and second members to prohibit disconnection of the first and second members.